The GE 404 is one of the most modern engines of this class. The variant proposed to be used will have the highest thrust and it is this engine which is being used in the latest fighters under development abroad. Discussions were conducted with a number of firms in UK, West Germany and France and agreements are being arrived at for systems or in areas where the indigenous base needs strengthening. There has been no decision at any time that we would be choosing a West German Consultancy. Our options are based on meeting our own requirements.

Purchase of self-propelled artillery guns from Sweden and U.K.

1874. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Governments consideration to purchase self-propelled artillery guns from Sweden and the U.K.

(b) if so, whether Government has gone into the relative merits of different types of such guns avaliable in the world market and the prices at which they are available; and

(c) whether the agreements for the purchase of these guns is likely to include transfer of technology of the self-propelled guns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Modifications in the Defence Education

1875. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures are being taken to make suitable modifications in the defence education and training, so as to keep pace with the latest scientific and technical developments in the world; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The content and methodology of training in the Armed Forces are continuously updated to keep pace with scientific and technological advancements. Modern training-aids like audio-visuals, simulators and computers have been and are being introduced.

Imposition of cess on Research and Development Programmes

1876. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:
PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is obligatory for the public sector and private sector units to carry on research and development programmes so as to improve the quality of their products;

(b) whether there is any machinery to monitor these research and development programmes;

(c) whether there is a proposal under Government's contemplation to the effect that industry should pay a cess of 0.75 per cent of the exact factory value of its output for this purpose; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC

ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) While it is not obligatory, there are over 900 industrial units both in the public sector and the private sector who are undertaking in-house R&D activities related to their production activities.

(b) The Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) in the Ministry of Science & Technology has a scheme for according recognition to in-house R&D laboratories/ establishments of industrial units. The units recognised under this schemes are periodically reviewed before renewal of recognition.

(c) and (d) The Review Committee on CSIR in its report (December 1986) has made a suggestion that a cess of 0.75% on the ex-factory value of output should be imposed. For every firm the following sums would be deductible from the cess payable:

(i) the actual R&D expenditure incurred by the firm; and

(ii) 133.33 per cent of the amount provided to sponsor any research in the CSIR system or in Universities.

Separate news services body for Doordarshan

1877. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a separate news services body for Doordarshan so that news bulletins for Doordarshan can be got up separately; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme drawn up and by when the new set up will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal envisages setting up a Central News Organisation in Doordarshan and establishment of news gathering teams in Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Jalandhar, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, and Guwahati by providing necessary equipment and staff. Action to set up the Central News Organisation and the news gathering teams has been initiated.

वित्त मंत्रालय द्वारा हिन्दी का प्रयोग

1878. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वित्त मंत्रालय में सब कार्य अंग्रेजी में होने के कारण सभी हिन्दी राज्यों को जिन्होंने हिन्दी को अपनी राजभाषा घोषित किया है और जिन्होंने केन्द्र से व्यवहार करने के लिए हिन्दी को अपनाया है, उन्हें बेबस होकर अंग्रेजी में केन्द्र सरकार के साथ काम करना पड़ता है ;

(ख) क्या एक हिन्दी कक्ष की स्थापना करने का विचार है जिससे हिन्दी भाषी राज्यों के सब कार्यों में हिन्दी का प्रयोग किया जा सके ; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि हिन्दी कक्षों की स्थापना न करके सरकार की नीति अंग्रेजी को अनन्त काल तक बनाए रखने की है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में व्यय विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बी० के० गढवी) : (क) हिन्दी भाषी राज्यों से प्राप्त पत्रों पर कार्यवाही करने में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है चाहे उनके द्वारा पत्र हिन्दी में भेजे जाते हों अथवा अंग्रेजी में । अत: यह कहना सही नहीं है कि ऐसे राज्यों को वित्त मंत्रालय के साथ अपना पत्र-व्यवहार अंग्रेजी में करने के लिए बाध्य किया जाता है ।